TECHNOLOGY CENTER R370-



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Rickey D. Hart et al.

Serial No.:

09/875,588

Filing Date:

06/06/01

Title:

SURGICAL FASTENING SYSTEM AND

METHOD FOR USING THE SAME

Group Art Unit:

3731

Examiner:

Julian W. Woo

Attorney's Docket No.:

INNO-15 CON 3

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON:

December 30, 2003

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

Scott R. Foster

(NAME OF ATTOPHEY

(SIGNATURE)

December 30, 2003

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

AMENDMENT

This paper is submitted in response to an Office Action of July 1, 2003, and a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment of December 3, 2003.

Please amend the application as follows:

INNO-15 CON 3